



Lake Park Villager

The official village newsletter of Lake Park, North Carolina

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January 2009

CLERK'S CORNER

Upcoming Lake Park town meetings:

February 10 – 7:00 PM Village Council Meeting

February 23 – 7:00 PM Parks and Recreation
Commission Meeting

February 26 – 6:30 PM Economic Development
Commission at 3316 Faith Church Rd

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

LAKE PARK HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION MEETING

FEBRUARY 3, 7:00 PM, COMMUNITY CENTER

LAKE PARK PLUS (INVESTMENT STUDY – MEMBER NAIC)

FEBRUARY 4, 7:00 PM, 3603 RUTH STREET

LAKE PARK SINGLES (AGES 45+)

FEBRUARY 5, 7:00 PM, COMMUNITY CENTER

LAKE PARK SAGES – VALENTINE DINNER

FEBRUARY 13 2009, 6:00 PM, FAITH UMC ACTIVITIES BLDG.

LAKE PARK TOWNHOME ASSOCIATION QUARTERLY BOARD MTG

APRIL 20, 6:30 PM, COMMUNITY CENTER

Stormwater Awareness

Excess fertilizers and pesticides applied to lawns and gardens wash off and pollute streams. In addition, yard clippings and leaves can wash into storm drains and add organic matter to streams.

- Don't over water your lawn. Consider using a soaker hose instead of a sprinkler.
- Use pesticides and fertilizers sparingly. When use is necessary, use these chemicals in the recommended amounts. Use organic mulch or safer pest control methods whenever possible.
- Compost or mulch yard waste. Don't leave it in the street or sweep it into storm drains or streams.
- Cover piles of dirt or mulch being used in landscaping projects to prevent runoff.

- From the Union County Pollution Solutions web page

The Council in Lake Park

Answering the question about the Council's role

One of the more common questions asked of the Village Council concerns our role in Lake Park versus the duties of the Homeowner's Association. These groups are very different and each serve a critical function in the village.

There is actually very little difference between the government in Lake Park compared to surrounding municipalities. The state of North Carolina issues a charter to establish an incorporated village or town. That charter specifies a governing body. As neighborhoods develop within a municipality, homeowner's associations may also develop to oversee private property and to aide in protecting property values. This is exactly the arrangement that exists in Lake Park.

Lake Park's village charter, approved by the state on July 1, 1994, established that the Village should be governed by a body of five citizens and one mayor elected by a popular vote. This Council is empowered by North Carolina state legislation to pass local ordinances into law and to administer village fiscal responsibilities as enumerated in their budget. With these powers, the Council's role is to:

- Pass laws for the overall safety of the village
- Provide services to the village such as law enforcement and waste collection
- Ensure compliance with state and federal laws such as Wastewater Phase II enforced by the EPA.
- Own and maintain all the roads within the Village (with the exception of Faith Church Road) as well as the traffic and parking laws.
- Maintain and care for the public areas in the village.

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Lake Park Village Government

Website: www.lakeparknc.gov

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Deputy Ryan Tomberlin and Deputy Richard Haywood

Dial 911, Non-emergency (704) 289-1591

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- Promote the economic development of the village
- Manage the recreational facilities offered to the general public such as the pool, tennis courts and basketball courts.
- Sponsor events such as the 4th of July Celebration

In contrast, the Homeowner's Association has been granted civil authority to enforce standards on private property that a municipal Council cannot enforce. These powers are granted by virtue of the signed covenants that all homeowners accept when purchasing their property. With this authority, the HOA:

- Establishes and enforces architectural standards for construction on private properties
- Administers rules concerning the general upkeep of private properties.
- Sponsors activities such as the Fall Festival, the Kite Festival, community yard sales, and Christmas activities.

The Lake Park Council meets every second Tuesday, and the official municipal web site is www.lakeparknc.gov. The HOA board meets monthly and maintains www.lakeparknc.com for community requirements and news. If you have any questions regarding the role of the Council in Lake Park, you are welcome to attend and speak at one of the Council meetings. You may also contact a council member directly using the email address or phone numbers listed in the Villager.

For Your Information

A Note from Parks and Rec

Judging from the light response to the recent tennis court usage survey, the Central Academy at Lake Park has been allowed to reserve the tennis courts on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 3:15 to 5:30 in the months of March and April. The courts will be available on a first come, first serve basis at any other time.

EDC News

Angela Williams, CPA, presented highlights to help both individuals and business owners prepare tax returns correctly for 2008 at the January 12, 2009 free Tax Workshop. Ms. Williams suggests seeking professional tax advice to ensure accurate filing and to avoid overpaying. "We must pay taxes, but we don't have to leave a tip!" Energy tax credits, limited in 2008, are reinstated for those installing storm doors or other energy-efficiencies in 2009. Seniors accustomed to the Required Minimum Distribution of IRA or 401(k) plans were reminded that the distribution requirement is suspended for 2009.

Central Academy at Lake Park is completing the modular expansion behind the academy buildings to accommodate 120% rise in 2008-2009 enrollment and to be positioned for future growth by the end of this month according to Carrie Neller, Head of School. Other additions are new playground equipment, landscaping and irrigation for the campus of this private school dedicated to preparing youth K-12 for Christian citizenship.

New Village Recycling Specifications

The Union County Transfer Station is enforcing strict regulations which alters how Action Garbage Service will continue pickup of recycle bin contents and any bagged side items. Please follow the new guidelines for:

1. RECYCLIE BINS ONLY:

Plastic bottles only when marked on the bottom with either a  OR 

Glass Containers. Metal and aluminum cans.

Newspapers – always add last, on TOP of all other recycled items.

Crews are instructed NOT to collect any other items from the Recycle Bins.

(No plastic bags, cardboard food or detergent boxes ~ put these in the TRASH CART)

2. BAGGED ITEMS OUTSIDE OF CARTS

Clear bags ONLY. Action must be able to identify at a glance whether the bagged items are household garbage or yard debris. Union County Transfer Station rejects yard debris co-mingled with household garbage.